REPORT

FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

Dublin Local Taxation.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 25 *June* 1824.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the Local Taxation of the City of DUBLIN, and to report their Opinion and Observations thereupon from time to time to The House; and to whom the Reports on the Local Taxation of Dublin, and the Minutes of Evidence relating thereto, taken before the Select Committees of this House, and Petitions presented during the present Session, were referred;—HAVE, pursuant to the Order of the House, inquired into the matters to them referred; and have agreed to the following RESOLUTIONS, which they have directed to be reported to The House:

1. *Resolved*,

THAT the Correspondence between the Government of *Ireland* and the Commissioners of the Paving Board, which has been laid before this Committee, be reported to The House.

2. *Resolved*,

THAT the Chairman be directed to move for the revival of the Committee, for the purpose of considering a final Report, within fourteen days of the meeting of Parliament in the next Session.

25 *June* 1824.

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LIST OF APPENDIX.

Copies of all CORRESPONDENCE between his Majesty's Government and the Dublin Paving Board, since the year 1820, on the subject of reducing the Amount of the Tax paid for Paving and Lighting by the Citizens of Dublin :—Viz.

No.
1.—Letter from the Right honourable Henry Goulburn to the Commissioners for Paving, &c. - - - - - - dated 11th October 1822 - - p. 3
2.—Letter from the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Right honourable Henry Goulburn - - - - - - - dated 29th October 1822 - - p. 3
3.—Letter from the Right honourable Henry Goulburn to the Commissioners for Paving, &c. - - - - - - dated 9th January 1823 - - p. 5
4.—Letter from the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Right honourable Henry Goulburn . - - - - - - dated 29th January 1823 - - p. 6
5.—Letter from William Gregory, Esq. to the Commissioners for Paving, &c. dated 15th February 1823 - - p. 7
6.—Letter from the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to William Gregory, Esq.; dated 17th February 1823 - - p. 7

PAPERS referred to, in the foregoing Correspondence.

(A.)—Return of Paving Tax, from 5th January 1814 to 5th January 1821; dated 2d March 1821 - - p. 8
(B.)—Memorial from the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Earl Talbot; dated 3d April 1820 - - - p. 10
(C.)—Report of the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Earl Talbot; dated 5th January 1821 - - p. 11
(D.)—Report of the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Marquis Wellesley; dated 5th January 1822 - - p. 12
SCAVENGING :—Referred to, in the Letter from the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Right honourable Henry Goulburn; - dated 29th January 1823 - - p. 13

Signed by Order,

Paving House Dublin, 27th April 1824.

W. Little,
Secy

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APPENDIX

—No. 1.—

Letter from the Right Honourable Henry Goulburn to the Commissioners for Paving, &c.

Dublin Castle, 11th October 1822.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received the commands of the Lord Lieutenant to call your attention to the enclosed extract of a Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Local Taxatioo of the City of Dublin. The circumstances which are there stated, with respect to the assessment of the Paving Board, and the balance which, from the reports of the commissioners of accounts, appears to be annually accumulating in their hands, satisfy his Excellency that a very considerable reduction in the rate of taxation might he effected, without any detriment to the useful objects which the board has in view.

I have, therefore, to desire, that you will immediately consider the propriety of reducing the rate of taxation to the extent recommended by the Committee, and of effecting such a reduction of the salaries and establishments of the board, as may bring their expenditure withio the reduced means which this diminished rate of taxation will place at their disposal.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

(signed) *Henry Goulburn.*

The Commissioners of Paving, &c. &c. &c.

—N° 2.—

Letter from the Commissioners for Paving, &c. to the Right honourable Henry Goulburn.

Paving Corporation House, 29th October 1822.

SIR,

WE had the honour of receiving your letter of the 11th instant, directiog our attention, by command of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, to "An extract of "a Report of the Select Committeeof the House of Commons on the Local Taxation of the City of Dublin;" and acquainting us that "the circumstances which are "there stated, with respect to the assessment of the Paving Board, and the balance "which, from the reports of the commissioners of accounts, appears to he annually "accumulating in their hands, satisfy his Excellency that a very considerable reduc "tion in the rate of taxation might he effected, without any detriment to tbe useful "objects which the board has in view."

Having given the extract of the Report from the Committee of the House of Commons our best attention, we heg leave to suhmit the following observations to the consideration of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, on the subject.

That we have for several years past stated, in our annual reports to the Government, the circumstances of the increasing insolvencies in the collection of the tax applicable to the public works placed under our care, and the defalcation of the annual sum of two thousand pounds, payable by the corporation of the city of Duhlin, under the 51st section of the paving act of the 47th of his late Majesty, and that we have, in consequence, been unable to proceed with many necessary works; and though it is mentioned in the Report of the Committee, that no interruption to the public works bas taken place, yet, in fact, the persons employed have been more engaged in repairs than they would have been, if the insolvencies and default in payment aforesaid had not prevented the execution of new pavements and other works, much wanted in several places; and the amount annually collected has been

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